



## AN APOLOGIE

- |                                |                               |
|--------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1. Or rather a retraction.     | 2. Or rather a recantation.   |
| 3. Or rather a recapitulation. | 4. Or rather a replication.   |
| 5. Or rather an examination.   | 6. Or rather an accusation.   |
| 7. Or rather an explication.   | 8. Or rather an exhortation.  |
| 9. Or rather a consideration.  | 10. Or rather a confirmation. |
| 11. Or rather all of them.     | 12. Or rather none of them.   |



Hen I had finished the precedent pamphlet, and in mine owne fantasie verie sufficiently euacuated my head of such homely stufte, of which it might seeme it was verie full

charged, and shewed how litle conceit or opinion I had of mine owne abilitie, to handle stately matters, by chusing so meane a subiect to discharge my selfe vpon: I thought now to rest me a while, & to gather some strength, by feeding on some finer meates, & making some cullisses & restoratiues for my selfe out of some other mens kitchins, & not open this vaine any more. But I laboured all in vaine to stop such a vaine: for certaine people of the nature of those that first dwelt in the Canaries, haue forced me to a further labour. For whether it were ouer-watching my selfe at primero, or eating too much venison, which they say is a very melancholie meate: I

Canaries were so called, of the dogs that were found in them.

A a

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The saying is  
Thrise an vn-  
derthiriffe and  
euer a knaue.

know not how , but betimes one morning when we vse commonly to take our sweetest sleepe, namely between eight and halfe houre past ten. I was either in so straunge a dreame, or in so straunge a melancholie , that me thought there came to me a nimble dapper fellow ( I can not hit on his name ) one that hath pretie petifogging skill in the law, and hath bene an vnder Shiriffe ( but not thrise ) and is now in the nature of an Atturney, this honest friend told me this solemne tale; I was (saith he) yesternight at supper at(

)Ordinarie, and there met M. Zoi-lus, M. Momus, and three or foure good natured Gentlemen more of the same crew, and toward the ende of supper they fell to talking (as their maner is) of certaine bookes lately come foorth. And one of them told how Lipsyus the great Politicke (that learned to speake so good English but a while since) had written a booke *de Cruce* , protesting that though he vnderstood not the language , yet it offended his conscience, to see so many crosses in one booke , and he haue so fewe in his purse ; then they spake of M. Raynoldes booke against Bellarmine , but they could finde not fault with it , for they said it was of a matter they vsed not to trouble themselues withall: thirdly , they descanted of the new Faerie Queene and the old both,

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both , and the greatest fault they could sayd in it , was that the last verse disordered their mouthes , and was like a trick of seenteene in a sinkapace . Finally they ranne ouer many mens writings , saying some wanted rime , some wanted reason , and some both . One they sayd , was so young , that he had not yet learned to write , another so old , he had forgotten to write , and was fit now to be *donatus rude* , as Horace sayth . But to make short , at last one of them pulled out of his bosome a booke that was not to be sold in Paules Churchyard , but onely that he had borrowed it of his friend , and it was intituled . *The Metamorphosis of A-I A X* , at which they began to make maruellous sport : and because it was a raynie night , they agreed to reade ouer the whole discourse to passe the time with . First they read the Authours name , and though they vnderstood it not , yet that it might not passe without a iest , they swore that it signified *Mise in a sacke of Mosse* . They read the letters , Misacmos. and stumbling once or twise on a figure called *Prolepsis* or preuention , they were angry their scoffes were so preuented . But when they found *Rabbles* named , then they were at home , they looked for pure stuffe where he was cited for an Authour .

The letters being ended , they perused the

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And they both  
be honest occupations, then  
Zoilus and Mo-  
mus.

pictures, they swore they were fit for a dong-  
farmer and a chimney sweeper . Then they  
fell to the Metamorphosis , it pleased them  
well, they said it was scurrill , base, shallow,  
fordidous; the dittie, the dirge, the etymo-  
logie, the pictures, gaue matter of iest, of  
scorne, of diuision, of contempt.

At last, they came to the intent ( as they  
thought) of the whole discourse of reforming  
Maister A I A X ill breath, why, they were  
so pleased with it, they were readie to vn-  
trusse, and thought to haue gone to it pre-  
sently : but when they came to the exposi-  
tion of the name *Misacmos*, and found it  
was a hater of filth, it was such a ierke, that  
they were halfe out of countenance with it:  
swoundes saith one of them, this fellow is an  
emie to vs, for we are counted but filthie  
fellowes among the graue gray bearded . But  
at last, when they were come to the dou-  
ble distichon, directly entituled to them by  
name, they had no sooner read it, but  
there was such spitting and spalling, as  
though they had bene halfe choked, they  
thought they should neuer get the tast out  
of their mouthes, yet they tooke immediat-  
ly fiftie pipes of Tabacco betweene fiue of  
them, and an ounce or two of kissing com-  
fits . And soone after swearing ouer a Pater  
noster or two, and cursing two or three Cre-  
does,

Martial saith  
quincuncies  
poco post dece-  
peratos.



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does , ( I meane the pox and three or foure  
small curles ) they vowed a solemne reuenge,  
and taking penne and inke , they fall to quo-  
ting of it , meeting with some matter almost  
in euerie page , either to deride or to carpe it,  
and when they had done ( for it would make  
a booke to tell all that passed among them )  
at last one of them , who had some iudgement,  
but not lesse mallice then the rest , said in  
great choller , doth this idle headed writer,  
because he can tell a tale of old *Stercutius* out  
of S. Augustine , thinke that his wit will serue  
him to finde meanes to amend the ill fauours  
in Richmond and Greenewitch ? No , if Her-  
cules that serued *Augens* , if *Atila* that sustai-  
ned the world , if Saint Christopher that is  
painted at Richmond with his cariage , *qui*  
*tollit peccata mundi* , if all these should ioyne  
with him , I doubt if it could be done . Yet  
said an other of them ( in scoffe ) wee may  
thanke him for his good meaning . Nay ra-  
ther said a third man in earnest , let vs plague  
him for his malapertnesse . In conclusion , they  
all layed their heades together , as neare as  
they could for their browe antlers , and deuif-  
sed to indite you at a priuie Sessions . Some  
said , you could not be indited , except you  
were put out of the peace first : but straight  
one alledged a President in Wiltshire , of a  
Iustice indited for a Barreter . Now therefore

That they should  
in the 41. page.

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(said my litle Attorney) aduise you how to answer it, for the Sefsion wilbe a purchased sefsion sooner then you looke for it. He had but newe ended his speech, and I had scarce leysure to thanke him, when me thought there rushed into my chamber, a thicke well trussed fellow, with a badge iust ouer his heart, and commaunds me in the name that I loue aboue all names, to goe immediatly with him. I must say truly, that though I blessed the name he vsed, and the badge he ware; yet I beshrewed his heart for bringing me no better newes next my heart, but with him I went (for needes must goe whom the diuell driues) and yet why shoulde I belye the diuell? I thinke for fortie shillings more then his fee, he would haue beene seeking mee a moneth in euery place, saue where I was. But to proceede, me thought this gentle pursuant brought me before an austere and graue Magistrate, whome I greatly loued and honored, to aunswere to diuers obiections and articles, that I neuer expected to be charged with. I comforted my selfe as well as I could with an old adage or two, *qui vadit plane vadit sare*, the plaine way hath the surest footing, and *magna est veritas*, & *preualet*, great is the truth, and preuaileth, and then answered my accusers as I could.

The maner of the accusatio, was not much vnlike

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vnlike the assault of a Towne : for first they skirmished as it were with small shot, which I bare off with the armour & shield of plaine dealing and honest simplicitie , but finding their forces increase, I was glad to retire me into the Castle of innocencie , where they made a fore batterie , with Rabbinets, Minions, Sakers, and Demicannons. For as God would haue it, they had no Cannōs, but thus they obiected, and thus I answered.

Cannons signifie rules of law. Now they are not right cannons but bastard cannons, that batter innocencie.

Some layd to my charge, I was an idle fellow , and shewed by my writings I had little to do . Alas sayd I, it is too true, and therefore if you know any man that hath an office to spare, you may do well to prefer me to it: for it were a bad office that I would not chaunge for this I haue taken vpon me; and if I had another, I would be content this were deuided among you.

Some sayd I was such a foole, to thinke seriously the deuise worthy to be published, & put in practise, as a commō benefite , trust me that is true too.

Some supposed, that because my writings now lay dead, & had not bene thought of this good while; I thought (as Alcibiades cut off his dogs taile, to make the people talke of his curtall ) so I would send my Muse abroad, masking naked in a net, that I might say:

*Nunc iterum volito viua per ora virum,*

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Of my honour that is not true . Will you deny it on your oath ? No by our Lady , not for a thousand pounds.

4 Some said plainly , because my last worke was another mans inuention , and that some fine phrase-making fellowes , had founde a distinction betweene a versifier and a Poet , I wrote this to shew I could be both when I listed, though I meane to be neither, as Thales Milesius , by making himsele rich in one yeare, shewed his contempt of riches. The deuill of the lye that is.

5 Some surmised against me , that because the time is so toying, that wholesome meates cannot be digested without wanton sauce, and that euen at wise mens tables, fooles haue most of the talke , therefore I came in with a bable to haue my tale heard , I must needes confesse it.

6 Some said, that in emulation of outlandish wits , and to be one of the first English, that had giuen the venter to make the title of his worke, the worst part of it; I was perswaded to write of such an argument, I will neuer denie that while I liue.

7 Some affirmed, that I had taken this laughing libertie to grace some that haue fauored me, and grate, against some that had galled me, *guiltie my Lord.*

Alasse poore Gentleman ( say the standers  
ders

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ders by) he will be condemned certainly for this that he hath cōfessed already, if he be not saued by his booke: let vs heare what he will answere to the rest of the inditement.

You did meane some disgrace in the letter afore the booke, and in many passages of the booke it selfe, to Ladies and Gentlewomen. Who I? God damne me if I loue them not. I feare more to be damned for louing them too well.

You did thinke to scoffe at some Gentlemen that haue serued in some honorable seruices, though with no great good successe. As I am a Gentleman not guiltie: neither do I meane any, but such as will needes be called M. Captaines, hauing neither caried out with them, nor brought home with them, worth, wealth, or wit.

You did seeke to discredit the honest meaning and laudable endeouours of some zealous and honest men, that seeke for reformation, and labour faithfully and fruitfully in the word. To this in all and euery not guiltie, prouided they raile not against Bishops nor against the Communion booke.

You did intend some scorne to great Magistrates and men in authoritie, either aliue or deceassed, vnder couert names to couer some knauerie. Knauerie? no as God Iudge me my Lord, not guiltie, the goodyear of all

8

9

10

11

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the knauerie too for me . By whom will you betried ? By the Queene and the Ladies, by the Counsell and the Lordes . What sawcie younker, will not meaner triall serue you? No good faith my Lord , I loued alway to be the worst of the companie.

Well sirra , this is the iudgement of the Court , that because there is hope you may prooue a wiser man hereafter , and that you haue some better friendes then you are wor-thie of, you shall haue this fauour ; if the inditement happen to be found , you shall trauerse it , and you shall chuse twelue free holders *bonos & legales homines*, that shall enquire of the qualitie of your discourse, and bring in their verdict *quindena Pascha* , and if they finde you guiltie , you shall haue a hole bored in your eare. What to doe , to weare my Mistresse fauour at ? Now , God saue your Mistresse life my Lord. Clarke of the peace , draw his enditement vpon the foure last articles that he denied , & vpon the Statute of *Scandala* , for I tell you we must teach you to learne the lawes of the Realme, as well as your rules of Poetrie. Lawes? I trow I haue the law at my fingers ends.

Anno 1.2. Phil.  
M. Cap. 3.  
Anno. 23. Elis.  
Cag. 2.

*Aures per dentes super & sint pillory stantes,  
Scandarumantes in Regis consiliantes,  
Aut in magnates noua sedicioſa loquentes,  
Non producentes autores verba ferentes.*

*Their*

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*Their eares must on the Pillorie be nayld,  
That haue against her highnesse Counsaile  
rayld,*

*Or such as of the Peeres foule brutes do scat-  
ter,*

*And cannot being their author for the mat-  
ter.*

Wherefore you shall find I will keepe me  
safe enough from scandaling. And if you doe  
it is the betrer for you.

What is your name? *Misacmos*. What? it  
is a Welch name I thinke? Of whence do you  
write your selfe? *Misacmos*, of Carnaruan  
Gentleman. Who made you of Carnaruan?  
She that made you of England. Well, you  
shall fare neuer the worse for that, but looke  
to the answering of your enditement I aduise  
you. What must I haue no counsell? Straight  
a bigge fellow, with a biggin on his head, and  
his gowne off of one shoulder, cries no, the  
Queene is a partie. But I had rather your  
gowne were off the other shoulder, and your  
head after, then you should make her a par-  
tie against me, and yet as ill as I loue you, I  
would my second sonne had chaunged pos-  
sibilities with your eldest, for a thing that I  
know. And thus after a few wrāgling words,  
me thought the Court rose for that time, and  
suddenlie my man came busling into my  
chamber, and told me, that all the Gentlemen

I meane no  
Lawer of our  
time, but one  
that Martiall  
speakes of.



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that had bene riding on the heath were come backe againe, and that it was neare xi. of the clocke , and straight I called for my sute of Abrizetta , and made all the hast I could to make me ready , not so much as tarying to say my prayers , least I might not come time enough to the peace of God at the closet, and so I might be in daunger to loose my dinner.

But hauing somewhat better pondred with my selfe this foresaid fancie, I was somewhat troubled with it, not so much for those hanging Metaphors , for as a good Knight of our countrey sayd, gogs soule Sirs, the best Gentleman of vs all need not forswear hanging , but that I thought that my Genius hereby presaged to me some perill to my reputation, of the sundrie censures I should incurre, by letting such a pamphlet fly abroad at such a time, when euery thing is taken at the voley , and therefore I held it not vnnessearie , as much as in me lay , to keepe it from the view and censure of all such as were like to deride it , despise it , or disgrace it, and to recommend it onely to all such as I thought would allow it and approue it . For to confesse the truth frankly to you my good colins *ὁ καὶ ἡ φιλοδύλπνος* , I desire not altogether to haue it concealed , least some hungrie promoting fellowes should beg it as a concealmēt, & beg the author also, for writing a thing

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thing that he were ashamed to shewe, but if I might governe the matter as I would, I would generally recommend it onely to such as haue houses and families of their owne. For I remember I haue read of a certaine king of the Lacedemonians, that being one day priuate in his garden, was teaching one of his sonnes of five yeares old to ride on a sticke, and vnawares a great Ambassadour came to speake with him, and found him in the manner: at which, both the king and the Ambassadour in the kings behalfe began to blush at first; but soone after, the king put away the blush & the hobby-horse together, and with a pretie smile asked the Ambassadour, if he had any litle children of his owne? He answered no. Then said he, I pray you tell not what you found me doing, till you haue some litle ones of your owne, and then tell it, and spare not: for euen so, I would request men to forbear reading of this discourse, or at least reproouing of it: till they had of their own that, that would make them know the commoditie and cleanness of it, and for those that will not, I would but wish them (as Martiall wishes to Charinus.

*Quidimprecabor o seueri Liuenti.*

*Opto Mulos habeat & suburbanum)*

So I would they could ryde on their footcloth, and had a house, and A I A X of their  
owne.

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owne. Yet surely it may be, it were the wisest way to shew it to none at all, and so I halfe with sometimes, but because euery generall rule must haue his exception, you shall see whom I would be content both the discourse and the deuise may be shewed vnto.

I  
Directions for  
shewing the  
booke.

First to a good & iudicious scholer, for he will read it, ere he will iudge of it, and say *omnia probate*; and then perhaps after he hath read it, he will smile, and say it is some young Schollers worke, that would haue shewed more wit if he had had it; but it is well, *ridentem dicere vetum quis vetat*, &c. And then he will say, it were good, some of his friendes would aduise him to spend his talent and his time on some better subiect. But some superfluous fellow, or some stale scribe, that thinke men will not iudge them to be learned, except they finde faultes; they will sweare, a man would haue writtē as well, that had read but *Marcus Aurelius*.

2 Secondly, I would haue it shewed to a house-keeper, that had much resort to him, for it were not only a deed of charity to helpe such a one, but a sinne to hide it from him; for else he may picke a quarrell (and say) that this same companie hath so stench't vp his house, that he must be forced to lye at London, till his house be made sweeter.

A common excuse of such as  
breake vp  
house.

3 Thirdly, if one be a builder and no house-keeper;

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keeper, let him see it to , for he loues to haue all fine for his heire; and perhaps I would be content for the loue I haue had to that humour, that my maister his sonne, were married to his mistresse my daughter , as Heywood saith of a lustie old widower, that woed a yōg woman. & boasting how well he would provide for his sonne.

*In a short tale, when his long tale was don:*

*She pray'd him go home, and send her his son.*

But if one be a builder, and a house-keeper both; then I will come home to his house to him, I will reade him a lecture of it, I will instruct his workeman, I will giue him plots and models, and doe him all the seruice I can: for that is a man of my owne humour, and a good common wealthes-man, but yet I will giue him a caueat in his eare, that I learned of Sir Thomas Moore, if his purse be not well furnisht.

*Ædificare domos multas, & pascere multos,*

*est ad pauperiem, semit a laxa nimis.*

*The way from wealth, and store, to want, and neede.*

*Is much to build, and many monthes to feede.*

Fourthly, if you would know whether you should shewe it to Ladies? Yea, in any wise to all manner of Ladies, of the Court, of the countrey, of the Citie, great Ladies, lesser Ladies, learned ignoraunt, wise simple, foule

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well fauoured, (painted vnpainted) so they be Ladies, you may boldly prefer it to them. For your milkmaids, and countrey house-wiues may walke to the woods to gather strawberies, &c.

But greater states cannot do so; and therefore for them it is a commoditie more then I will speake of, yet vpon a touche of this point, make me but a good rime to this line  
afore diner:

„ *Withinyon tower, there is flower, that holds my*  
„ *heart.*

„ Howbeit, you must not shew it after one fashion to all, but to the wise and sober, after a plaine fashion; to the wanton and waggish, after another fashion; as namely, if they cry (fie for shame) whē they heare the title read, or such like, do but you say (for companie) that it is a mad fantastickall booke indeed, and when you haue done hide it away, but where they may finde it, and by the next day, they will be as cunning in it as you, for this is not the first time that I haue said of such a kinde of booke:

*In Brutus presence, Lucrece will refuse it,*

*Let him but turne his backe, and sh'ill peruse it.*

Fiftly, you may shewe it to all amorous young youthes, that will scratch their head but with one finger at once (as Cato noted of *Caesar*) and had rather bee noted of  
three

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three disorders in their liues, then of one in their lockes; and especially if they bee so cleanly, that they will not eate pottage (no not alone) but that they will wipe their spoone betweene euery spooneful, for feare least the vpper lippe should infect the neither; for I would thinke certainly, that such a one, if he be so cleanly as he would seeme to be, would make great account of A I A X so well reformed. But yet the world is so full of dissimulation, and hipocrisie, that wee of the plainer sort may be easily deceiued; for I hearde of one the last day, in a towne a hundred myle from London, that had engrossed al the fine fashions into his hands; of the curling, perfuming, wiping the spone, &c. and yet after al this cleanlinesse, went to as common, and as deformed A I A X of the feminine gender, as any was in the towne, and then alas, what will such a one care for my deuise.

Lastly, I would haue it shewed to all good fat corpulent men, that carry with them a writ of *Corpus cum causa*, for they are commonly the best natured men men that bee; without fraude, without trecherie, as *Caesar* said of *Anthony* and *Dolabella*, that hee neuer mistrusted them for any practise, because he saw they were fat, but rather *Casca* and *Cassius*, that were leane hollow fellowes, and

Praise of fat men.

Bb

cared

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Lubberland.

cared not for a good dinner: And therefore I would be censured by those good fellowes that haue lesse gall, and the rather, because I looke euery day for presse money from the Captaine, to be imployed in the conquest of that counrry, and this engyn of mine is like to be in great request for those seruices.

But mee thinkes, you may say that here is a maruellous restraint made of shewing this discourse of mine, not much vnlike to our stage keepers in Cambridge, that for feare least they should want company to see their Comedies, goe vp and downe with vizers, and lights, puffing and thrusting and keeping out al men so precisely; till all the town is drawne by this reuell to the place; and at last tag & rag, fresh men & sublizers, and all be packt in together, so thicke, as nowe is scant left roome for the Prologue to come vpon the stage: for so you may suppose, that I would bar all from this Pamphlet of mine, saue those, that can write, or read, or vnderstand. But if you take it thus, you doe much mistake it, for there be diuers from whome I would keepe it, as I woulde from fire and water, as for example.

Y  
Foure sortes  
of men that  
will mislike  
of the booke,

First, from a passing proude fellow; such a one as Naaman the Syrian, that would disdain to wash in Iordan, though it would cure him of the Leprosie, or the pox, and to such



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such for my part, I would wishe they might  
lay all in their gold breeches, rather then to  
abase their high cōceits so much, as to think  
vpon poore Master A I A X,

Secondly, from all manner of fooles and  
iesters, whether they be artificiall, or natural,  
for these be so dul, they cannot taste the salt,  
in a peece of wel poudred writing; and those  
be so tart, they will rather loose a friend thē  
a iest: yet if their rayling were allaide a little,  
with the two excellent vertues, of flattering  
& begging; one might hope for some kind-  
nes at their hands.

Thirdly, if you spie a fellowe with a bay  
leafe in his mouth, auoid him, for he carieth  
a thing about him worse then Maister A-  
I A X, that all the deuises wee haue cannot  
reforme.

Fourthly, if you see a stale leane hungrye  
poore beggerly thridbare Kaualliero, like  
to Lazorelloes Master, that when hee  
dyned at his owne house, came foorth  
with more crummes of bread on his beard,  
then in his belly, and that beeing descen-  
ded of diuers Nobilities, will do a meane  
gentleman the honor to borrow ten shil-  
linges of him: shew it not him, for though  
he can say nothing against it, yet hee will  
leere vnder his hatte as though hee coulde  
speake more then hee thinks. For such a

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one that makes not agood meale at home  
once in a moneth, hath not a good stoole a-  
boue once in a weeke, and then hee will  
neuer say vs gramercie for it : and this I  
may say to you, is a consideration of no final  
importance, for though I must acknowledg,  
that is not one of the meritorious woorkes  
I looke to be saued by, yet to haue a prayer  
or two from some, that perhappes neuer say  
prayer any where else, would do me no hurt,  
nor them neither. And mee thinke I myght  
much better deserue a kn-aue Mery to bee  
saide for me, where my stately AIAX is ad-  
mitted, and standes men insteede : then he,  
for whose soule the young gentleman, the  
first time hee consumated his mariage with  
his wife, said a *Pater noster* : and being asked  
for whom he prayed, he told his wife, it was  
for his soule, that had taken the paines to  
make his way so easie for him. Oh sir saide  
she, it is a sign you haue travelled such waies  
more then an honest man should haue done,  
that you are so cunning, and so they became  
good friendes. But ware ryot hoe, whither  
am I running? I said I would keepe me from  
scandalizing, but if I stop not betime, some  
will thinke to haue their actiō in the case a-  
gainst me : yet it is good to cast the worst.  
Suppose that for my bad indyting, I should  
be indyted, as it is twentie to one but if the  
ground

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graund Iurie were prickt by a bad Shiriffe,  
out of those foure last mentioned lutes (and  
of three of them, you shall haue a full appa-  
raunce in most Courts of christendom) they  
will sure say *bill a vera*, though they shoulde  
say of right nothing but *ignoramus*. But see  
see, euen with thinking of it, I fall againe in-  
to my former melancholy, me thinke the in-  
ditement is found, I am arraigned, I plead not  
guilty, I wold stil be tried by the nobility, by  
such as builde stately pallaces, & keepe great  
courts, but it wil not be graunted me, I must  
haue none but freeholders, I chafe at it, and  
wold appeale: they crie it is not the course of  
the comon law, I praise the ciuil law: for ther  
a man may holde play with appealing, yf hee  
haue a little idle money to spende, three or  
fower yeare. At last comes the little dapper  
fellow my honest Atturney, that knew bet-  
ter the course of these matters then I did, &  
he roundes me in the eare, and tells me, that  
for fortie shillinges to Maister high shiriffes  
man, that weares the russet fatten doublet,  
and the yellow silke stockings, hee will vn-  
dertake, I shall haue a Iurie of good free-  
holders, but for the nobilitie, it is out of  
their commission: and sir (saith hee) what  
neede you to stande so much on the Nobili-  
tie, considering you desire to haue none but  
great housekeepers, & builders? For suppose

Proud.  
Fooles.  
Beggars.

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you could get three or fower to appeer: one at Petworth, an other harde by, there at Coudrey ( where in the olde Vicounts time *Iupiter hospitalis* is saide to haue dwelt ) and the yoong Lorde I heare doth *patrifare*, or rather I shoulde saye *Anisfare*, (and that is a good worde, if hee will marke it.) Say also another dwelt at Raglande in Monmouth shire, where I heard a good Knight of Gloucestershire affirme, the most honorable house of that Realme was kept : and a fourth at Nonesuch, where the housekeeper for true English Noblesse and honour, deserues the name, better then the house. But when you shall thinke to make vp the *Tales*, where wil you haue them? some will bee *non est inueni in balina*, some that you lone best, wyll not be perhappes *intra quatuor maria*; wherefore the Iudge was your friende more then you were aware, that giues you choice of freeholders.

Woodden  
stockes were  
fitter for the  
then silke  
stockings.

Beleeue me (saide I) I thinke it is so indeede, holde thee my little dapper knaue, there is fortie shillinges for Maister shiriffes man, to buy him another paire of silke stockinges, and there is fortie pence for thy good counsell, and see you finde me a Iurie of substantiall free-holders, that are good house-keepers to trie my honestie by.

Hce

*An Apologis.*

He goeth, and ere an Ape can crack a nut (as they say) hee brings the names, and Mayster Cryer hee comes, twentie shillings in his shoes, and calles them, though hee be sure they cannot heare him. As folioweth.

John Harington of Exton, in the Countie of Rutland Knight, *alias* Iohn Har: of Burleygh, in the Countie aforefaide, *alias* of Combe in the Countie of VVarwicke, *alias* of Ooston in the Countie of Leceister, come into the Court, or else, &c. Hath he freeholde? Yea he is a pretie free-holder in all these shires. Moreouer saith a third man, though he be a free-holder, yet he hath married his daughter to one, that for a grandfather, for a father, for two vncles, and three or foure aunts, may compare with most men in Englād. Lastly a fourth said, & foure hundred confirme it, that hee relieues manye poore, and sets them to woorke, he builds not onely his owne houses, but Colledges, and Hospitalls. Marie sir, then shall hee bee foreman of my Iurie with all my verie hart, a builder and a house-keeper both, you cannot deuise to please mee better. I woulde there were a *decem tales* in euerie shire in England, & on that cōdition, I wold be glad to be one of them. Well, what haue you to say to Syr Iohn Harington? Marie this. Here is one *Misacmos*, that is accused

W

Bb 4

ser-

*An Apologie.*

seruants of the state, to be a writer of fantasticall Pamphlets, to corrupt manners; the same suspected of diuers vntruths, and treasons, not sparing the Maiesties of Kings, and great Emperours (saying one was a cuckold and a foole, an other had an ill face, as in the Pamphlet it selfe more plainly appeareth) now because it seemes hee is a Gentleman, and of reasonable good breeding, he craues to be tried by a substantiall Iurie, of which, for many respectes, he will haue you to bee the forman. Hee pleades to all the principall matters, not guiltie, and iustifies, that those things they cal vntruth, & treason, are truth, and reason. He is to be tryed, by God and countrie, which country you are, wherefore your charge is (if it please you) to read the whole Treatise at your leasure, and then to say how you like it. He saith further, he cares not to haue you sworne, because your word will be taken for a greater matter then this, by ten thousand pounds without oath. Iurie Harington.

2 Who is next? Sir Iohn Peter of Stonden in the county of Essex knight, a good house-keeper, and a builder both. Hath hee free hold? Yea so so, I thinke he may weare velvet and sattin by the statute of (4. & 5. Phil. Ma.) for he may dispend twentie Markes a yeere *ultra reprimis*.

Well,

*An Apologie.*

Well, because he is a builder and a house-keeper, I hope he will not deny me to be of my Iurie. The same charge, &c. that sir Iohn Harington tooke you, &c. and so long may you keepe a good house. Iurie Peeter,

Sir Iohn Spenser Knight, a good substantiall free-holder in Northampton shire, and a good house-keeper, and so was the father afore him: Oh I remember him, hee had a poore neighbour once dwelt at Holmeby, that made foure verses, if I haue not forgot them, were fortie shillings out of his way.

*Erupuit fors dura mihi, fors altera reddit.*

*Hac loca quæ veteri, rudere structa vides:*

*Aeternos viuat, Magna Elisabetha per annos,*

*Quæ me tam grato, læta fauore beat.*

By S. Mary he had good cause to say, well fare a good Mistresse, or else Holmeby had bin ioyned to your free-hold. How say you worthy Knight (and the best man of your name that is, but not that hath been) wil you be of our Iurie? You will say you know not this same *Misacmos*. It may bee so very well; for I thinke the fellowe doth scarce knowe himselfe at this instant, and yet hee learned *23031* *23031* twenty yeares agoe. Well, I presume you will not refuse it: for though you neuer heard of him, it seemes he hath heard of you. I will tell you two or three good tokens, you haue three or foure sisters, good well

There were  
Earles of the  
Spencers.



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well fauored, well featured, well statured,  
well natured women, for plaine countrie  
wenches: and they were married to men,  
a step, or two, or three or fower, about the  
best yeoman of Kent (well fare all good to-  
kens) & one of them is a widow, I beshtow  
their hartes, and I would their wiues were  
widowes that made hir so. I trow it was sir  
James Harington, & your father, that went  
a begging to make a purse to marry their  
daughters: but you will make a hundred of  
vs goe a begging, if wee should followe you.  
wyl you haue any more tokens yet? you  
you had a brother of Lincolnes Inne, and an  
other they say keepes a good house, for I  
weene the best house-keeper in Englande  
was at his house: yet one token more, you  
you haue a learned writer of your name,  
make much of him, for it is not the least ho-  
nor of your honorable family. Iury Spencer.

4

Thomas Stanop Knight, of Shelford in  
the Countie of Nottingham, a housekeeper,  
a builder, a substantiall freeholder, come in-  
to the Court. Alas sir he is lame hee cannot  
come. Is he so indeede? I am sory for it: I  
haue heard that he hath borne some sway in  
his countrie, yet bid him not forget the old  
prouerb a good friend in the court, is worth  
a penny in the purse at all times. V.Vell, if  
he cannot come, let vs haue another. Oh syr  
(saith

*An Apologie.*

(sayth one) stay but a *Pater noster* while,  
and you may haue his sonne in his place.  
What (Maister Iohn Stanop my old scool-  
fellow, an honest and valiant Gentleman?) I  
will tarrie for him with all my hart. To the  
next.

Mathewe Arundell Knight, of Warder  
in the Countie of VViltshire, a good free-  
holder, and a builder. Tush he is no house-  
keeper, so saide one that dwelles threescore  
myle to Trent Northward. Is it so? I will  
knowe within this moneth, if it bee so or  
no? In the meane season, I will venter to  
take him if I can meet with him. For first I  
doubt, if he himselfe that said so, haue spent  
so much in honorable seruices, as this free-  
holders sonne hath done.

Secondly, I haue seene both Lordes and  
ladies, as wel intertained in his poore house,  
and serued in as fine plate, & Porflin, as any  
is in the North. And admit he were no hous-  
keeper, yet I wold haue him, bicause I heare  
he is a good horsekeeper, a red deare keeper.  
a fallow deare keeper, and other suche base  
things, as may enable him for my Iurie.  
Come an olde father Peleus, hee lookes  
like Prestler Iohn in his furred night cappe;  
but hee hath more witte vnder that cappe,  
then two or three of his neighbours. VVill  
it please you sir, to bee of our Iurie? It shall  
cost

5

Horsekeeper.

*An Apologie.*

cost the life of one of the bald faced buckes  
else. What are you angry, I call you *Peleus*?  
If I were but an other *Prometheus*, I would  
swear your fortune should be, to be like *Pe-*  
*leus*: for the time was, that one wrate of your  
*Thetis*, whē she waited on Diana at Hatfield.  
*Who marketh well her grace, thereby may plain-*  
*lie see,*

*A Laura in her face, and not a Willoughbee.*

Whist? peace (saith my litle Atturney in  
mine eare) you that are so full of your Poe-  
trie, we shall haue a new inditement framed  
against you vpon the statute of *Rogues*. For  
telling of fortunes. Haue you a verse for that  
too? Yes mary haue I Sir.

*Eati narrator, Agyptus, Prestigator,*  
*Aure perurantur, simul atque flagella sequantur.*  
*All fortune tellers, Iuglers, and Egiptions,*  
*Are burnd in the eare, or whipt by lawes pre-*  
*scriptions.*

Norwithstanding, I trust a man may by  
*poeticalicentia*; and by example of *Virgil*, tell  
fortunes that be past; yet little saide is soone  
amended; howbeit, I will not forget to be  
thankefull to this good Knight, for one spe-  
ciall fauour hee did mee. And that was; hee  
made me goe when I was with him at War-  
der, to as stately A I A X house (for a Som-  
mer house) and as sweet, as any can be; in a  
standing, made in an Oke, that hangs ouer a  
ponde,

*An Apologis.*

ponde, and maruell not I call it stately: for this Maister A I A X, if you bring but an angle rod, and a crosbow with you; will afford choise of three royall sportes, to kill Deare, foule, and fish: now this I take it, was more then common kindnesse, and so much for iurie Arundell.

Frauncis Willoughby Knight, of Wollerton in the Countie of Nottingham, a good freeholder, a housekeeper, and a great builder. Oh my neighbour that dwels a hundred mile from mee, and yet but a hedge partes our land? good morrow neighbour with the faire house, the faire wife, & the faire liuing. *Tout beau*, I pray you let vs haue a faire verdict from you in our matter, or else I will promise you, I will rather lye in the woorst Inne in Nottingham, then in the fairest bed-chamber in your house: and if you wilbe of our side, I will pray that all your faires, may be the fairer, one for another. Iurie VVilloughby.

John Berin Knight, of the same County, a great good housekeeper. Marie Gods blessing on his heart for it. Indeeде I remember they would say, that Sir Iohn Berin for Nottinghamshire, was as great a housekeeper as Sir Edward Baynton in Wiltshire: and then I will bee sworne, hee was a good one. Well, let vs make much of him, for there is but

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but a few of them left I trust he will not refuse me, for my Iurie. Iurie Berin.

George Sampool Knight, a Lincolnshire man, & a Lincolnes Inne man, a good freeholder, and keepe a good house in his country (as I heare) but I knowe my neighbours of Bath wil affirme, that he kept good hospitality there: and that hee and his faire Lady both, are a worthy, vertuous, and a godly couple.

Well, let them bee as godly as they may, and as perfecte in the Scripture as *Priscilla & Aquila*; I hope they will not deny, but I haue good authorities, for my testie, and giue a friendly verdict. Iurie Sampool.

Raph Horsey Knight, the best housekeeper in Dorsetshire, a good freeholder, a deputie Lieutenant. Oh Sir, you keep hauks, and houndes, and hunting horses; it may be some mad fellowe will say, you must stand in the Bath vp to the chinne, for spending fise hundred poundes, to catch hares, and Partridges, that might bee taken for fise pounds.

But if you do come to Bath (so you will be one of my Iurie) I will stand as deepe in the bath as you, and it is odds, but at the spring and fall, we shall meet good company there. I pray you giue a friendly verdict, for old acquaintance betweene Kings Colledge, and Tri-

According to  
the tale in  
hundred me-  
ry tales.

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Trinity Colledge: Iurie Horsey.

Sir Hugh Portman of Orchard, in the county of Somerset Knight, a good house-keeper, a builder, and a substantiall freeholder. Marie Sir I might ill haue spared him. Come my good Knight, I haue kept you in store for a dead list, I hope you will sticke close to vs; for the law: for you haue as much if you list to shewe it, as some that weare coifes. Besides, you haue that same soueraign medicine against the cōsumption, called *aunrum potabile*: and I knowe your neighbours of Taunton say, you are liberall of it, and for your good hospitality, your neighbors of the Court will say, you are no niggard of your meat. Yet I remember one day, whē I told a good friend of yours: that I was sure you neuer took vsury: wel (saith he) though I grant he doth many men kinde pleasures, yet hee doth them not all *gratis*. I promised him I would tell you so, and to picke a further thanke, I will tell you what I answered him. (For I guessed at his meaning, by meanes I had once sōe smattering of the Latintoong) if your *gratis* (quoth I) be an adiectiue, the fault is theirs, and the praise is his.

Well Sir Hugo, I will come shortely and see your newe buylded Orchard (I thinke there is not two better Orchardes in England, and put Kent to it) and when

*Gratis* signifies to thankfull persons. But *gratis* the aduerbe signifies freely.

we

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we haue conferred for reforming one fault there (you can smell my meaning I am sure) then would I aske your opiniõ which makes a man happier, *to be wise, or rich.* I asked a Philosopher once and (he said) he could not tel, because he saw stil the wise men waite at the rich mens doores.

Well happie are you if you can decide this question, and happier if you cannot decide it. A rich man, a wise man, a builder, and specially a batcheler. *Franco, sciolto, legato, o che felice stato?* Wherefore keepe you so stil, and belecue mee it is the happiest state, yet tell not my wife that I say so, for (of my honesty) shee will make mee vn say it againe, with all my heart. Iurie Portman. Cryer count them.

Sir Iohn Harlington, one. Sir Iohn Peeter, two. Sir Iohn Spenser, three. Sir Thomas Stanop, foure. Sir Mathew Arundell, fve. Sir Frauncis Willoughby, six. Sir Iohn Berin, seuen. Sir George Sampoolle, eight. Sir Raph Horsey, nine. Sir Hugh Portman, ten. whop, why howe now Master K. Shiriffes man? Here is but ten giue me a noble of my 40. shillinges backe againe. Oh speake soft sir, you shall haue a *tales* for two more, the best wee can get, but wee can finde you no more Knights. There is twoo names more for you. Who haue we here? Raph Sheldon  
of



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of Beeley, in the County of Worcester Esquire. Thomas Markham Gentleman.

First let vs see what this Sheldon is. Hath he freeholdes? Yea sir. He is a good freeholder, a great house keeper, a builder, an excellent common wealths man, as any is in al his country, I will warrant you, hee will bee for you. Not too much of your warrantes.

What said Henry Tuttle to his grandfather?

Giue mee leaue I pray you a little, I haue

heard he is an vnthrif, I haue forgotten at

what game it was, but I am sure it was saide,

if he had not faire play playd him, he was in

daunger within these two yeares, to haue

lost his lande, by one play or other. By the

masse it is true, there was such a matter. Well,

let him thanke a guiltlesse conscience, and

a gracious Princeesse, that hee sped no worse.

Oh these same *Oues & Bowes, & Pecora,*

*Campi,* a flocke of white sheepe in a greene

field, and a newe house on a high hill; I tell

you, they bee perillous tempting markes to

shoot at.

It is strange to see the worlde, not halfe a

yeere before, I hearde one that was a great

Courtier say, that he thought him one of the

sufficientest wise men of England, and fittest

to haue been made of the Counsell, but for

one matter, and indeed by *Cornelius Agrippa*

his rule, that is a right Courtiers comenda-

tion :

What is a  
knaues war-  
rant worth  
A by word in  
Somerfetshire

And let him  
pray for Tra-  
ians soule.  
with S. Gre-  
gorie.

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tion: For after they haue roused three or four idle wordes to praise a man, straight they mar al at the buts: I would to God for their owne sakes, and mine too, they could leaue it. Well Master Sheldon, I pray you bee of our Iury, for you haue made a fine house at Weston (but I knowe one fault in it.) Nowe though I praise your house like a Courtier with a but, you must bring in your verdict, like a plaine countryman, without the but.

Thomas Markham gentleman come to the Court, which Markham is this? blacke Markham keeper of Bescowd, why hee is a Squire; I row I haue a verse for it, made by a most honorable Poet.

*Thomas Markham the gentle Squire,*  
*Whom Sir Fulke Greeneull call'd a grimfrowe,*

Yea it is true, but the case is altered since: for that same good Knight is lame; or else I dare answer he would haue appeared on this Iurie himselfe (and his son is an honorable Gentleman, and a great states man may do a man displeasure about the Queene, it is not good troubling of him.) If it be that Markham I will none of him, for I heard a noble Philosopher of the same coat that the Poet was, say that he is a Stoicke, & I will no Stoickes of my Iury; of the two extreames, I would rather haue Epicures. Besides that, I would haue no such blacke fellowes, for we shall

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shall haue some of these Poetrie men say, as one said of Sir Harry Goodyeare when hee wrote *Candida sint comitum Goodyeery nil nisi nigrum*, he wrate vnderneath it. *Hic niger est, hunctu Regina caneto*, a good yeere on him for his good caueat, for hee hath had since some young scholers that haue learned to put in the like *caueats*. *Caue credas* take heed you trust him not, but Tullie saith in his oration *pro Ligario; nonne omnem humanitatem exuerunt*? Haue they not cast away all sence of humanitie? And a little after saith the same Tullie of *Caue ignoscas; Hac nec hominis, nec ad hominem vox: qua qui apud te C. Caesar utetur, suam ipsi citius abiicient humanitatem, quam extorquebunt tuam*, thus in England. Take heed you pardon not. O lewd speech, not fit to be spoken of a man nor to a man, which speech, whosoever shall vse to thee (ô more then Caesar) shall sooner discover their owne cruell inclination, then extort from thee thy naturall clemencie. O deuine Tullie, is not this christianly spoken of a heathen? were not that heathenishly spoken of a christian? Wel he that should put in such a *caueat* for me, I would follow presently a *quare impedit*, why I might not present him for a *cnave* at little Brainford and lesse honestie.

Thomas Markham Gentleman, come to the Court; Yet againe? I tell thee I will

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In memoria  
eterna erit  
iustus.

Accused and  
said, Lopus  
had bid him  
say, he was a  
dangerous  
man with  
Caue credas  
Tanquã ster-  
cus, memoria  
impiorum.

A Jewell libel  
made at the  
death of the  
Lord Chan-  
cellor Hat-  
ton.

none of him, one said hee lookt blacke on him: yea, but he that found such fault with his complexion, I heard one tell him was dead, and he answered very charitably, yong he was, and poore he was, and knaue he was, & so God haue mercy on his knaues soule. Faith that is like enough to be his aunswere. Then it may bee hee is cleere, otherwise, though he looke blacke. Cleare, yea on my worde, *Candido piu nel cuor che di fuor cigno*. What is that? *Rara avis in terris nigroque similimo Cigno*; Iust as Iermins lippes, nowe you haue compared him well, as white as a black swan. Well I haue no minde to haue him of my Iurie, hee is but a poore freeholder, he hath no credite. No credit? VVhy his bond hath been taken for twenty thousand pounds. Hath it? more foole he, I will neuer trust him for half so much, I pray thee looke me some better freeholder. Why sir? I aduise you do not scorne him, though hee be no Knight, he had a Knight to his father, and hath a Knight to his son, you may well admit him of your Iurie. I tell thee my lytle knaue, thou doost presse mee beyonde good manners, I will not haue him. Harke in your eare, they say he is mal-contêt. Who saith so? Nay who saith not so? *Unton is undone, Markham is mal-content*. Who hath not heard that? Wherefore make no more adoe,

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adoc, but send me for his Nephewe Robert that came of the elder house, & of the bloud of Lancaster, he that maister Secretary Walsingham gaue the Arabian horse, I woulde haue him, hee is a fairer complexioned man by halfe, and in sadnes I wish him well. Hey hoe: what doost thou sigh? Alas sir he would come with al his harr, but he is busie sitting on a commission, ( I haue forgotten in what bench it is) and when he hath doone there, he must goe they say to another Bench at Oxford. What Robert Markham of Cottā? so honest a gentleman, so good a house keeper, so well descended, so well affected in religion, & become such a Bencher, that when he is called is forth comming, but not comming forth? I am sorie I can do him no pleasure, I would his best cosin did know it. The time hath beene, that if he coulde haue walked with a little sticke like a ragged staffe on his sleeue, or if he had had but a walking hynde, or a ramping stag, or the white birde, that is such a beauty to the Thamis, he shold not haue laine so long after his resting: well then I perceiue the world goeth harde on al the Markhams sides; I thinke they bee all mal-contents, they shall none of them be of my Iurie, I pray God they doe not say that I am of kinne to them, for indeede my name *Misacmos* begins with an M. What if one

Kings Bench  
Penniless  
Bench.

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should write *Misacmos* is *mal-content*; I wold  
leape vppon the letter and replie. By your  
leape you lye, like a lout lewd maister libel-  
ler. But *Markham* is *mal-content*, how proue  
you it? *Scriptum est enim*, for it is written, but  
it is in *libro fictitio*. I would you coulde name  
mee your author; yet let vs examine this *ig-  
noro*, if he say true. Let vs do him the fauour  
that men do to Astronomers, if they tell but  
one true tale, beleue him in a hundred lies,  
sure you lyed in al the rest good M. Libeller,  
for first he that you saide was vndone, liued  
to do more seruice for his Countrie, then e-  
uer you will do, and many thinges are left  
vndone by his death, that might perhappes  
haue beene much better doone, and he that  
you saide fadeth, dooth nowe flourish with a  
guilt Axe in his hande, in a much more ho-  
norable seruice, and he that you saide wai-  
led, is well and merrie (he thankses you not)  
and hee you saide was bankrout, payes the  
Queene more subsidy, then you and I both  
I dare lay a wager, & the other two, the one  
need not goe bare head, for want either of  
hat or haire, and the other will neither dodg  
nor doubt to shewe his face as you dooe.  
VVherefore M. Libeller though in this  
matter you are cited and beleueed better  
then Saynt Austen, yet I beleue you not  
in saying Markhams bee *mal-content*: and  
yet

Agrippa.

The Libell  
is thus.

Vmpton is  
vndone.

Markham is  
*mal-content*.

Floure fadeth

Swaile wai-  
leth.

Bancroft is  
bankrout.

Hatton is  
har off.

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yet at a venture, I woulde you had the causes of discontent that they haue, so they had none of them, but this I will distinguish vppon the authoritye alleadged; that taking *mal-content* as an honest man might take it, namely a man sorrowfull for the greuous losse of his greatest friend; the vngratefull requitalles of most kinde and friendly offices, the vnaduised reuolt of his deare sonne, the vnaccustomed frowne of his dread soueraigne, if a man felt no discontent in these, I would say hee were a stocke and not a Stoicke, but vnderstanding it as I know you would be vnderstood, that they be *mal-content* as ill affected to theyr prince, I dare say you lie in plain English, but ther is onewill come hōe shortly I trow, that will tel you, if you be so full of the French, as I take you to be, *Tu ments par la gorge*. But good M. Libeller and your fellowes, I knowe your meanings you would faine make *mal-contents*, and it greeues you you cannot, the water is so clear for your fishing, you catch nothing but goodgins, the great fishes bee too warie, and now you are faine to lesseon your meafnes contrarie to statute, being willyng to play any game rather then sit out. Or I thinke you haue read the pollicy of Richard the thirde, who to giue his wife a preparatiue to her death, gaue out first she was dead,



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hoping that this course ( cordiall I would haue saide ) might breake her hearr, as it did indeed.

So you worthy members of your country ( God amēd you, for I was saying, the plague take you all ) when you would make Malcontentes, then your pollicie giues out firste that they be so. Oh take heed of such a one, he is a daungerous man. A puritan, why so? Hee will not sweare nor ride on a Sunday, the he wishes too wel to the Scottish church, note him in your tables. Another is a papist. How know you? He said he hoped his grandfathers soule was saued. Tush but he goes to Church. Marie they bee the most perillous men of all. And why so I pray you? if they will venter their soules to pleasure their Prince, what do you suspect them of? Oh if they be Catholike, they are Spanishe in theyr hearts, for he is their Catholike King. By my fay that is somewhat you say, but I pray you, you that are not Spanishe but all for the French, what religion is the French King of? Oh no more of that, you will answere that when Callis is French againe. Fare you well Sir.

Thomas Markham Gentleman, come in- to the Court, and plucke vp thy olde spirits. Is not this he should haue bene controul- er, and now he is afraide rather to bee contro- led?

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led? What euill hath he done? His seconde son grew so great, he could not finde roome ynough in Englande. Alas poore boy, God punisheth oft the sinne of the father on the childrē, but neuer but once that I haue read of the sonnes offence on the father. Is there no body hath a son so farre of? I trow there is. And yet he a true and woorthy Gentleman.

Thomas Markham Gentleman, her Maiesties seruant extraordinary, come to the Court. Why was he once ordinary? Yea that he was. Aske olde Hatfield men, and aske them quickly too, for they be almost al gone. Why man he was standerd bearer to the woorthy bande of Gentlemen Pentioners. What did he leaue such a place *gratis*? yea *gratis* the aduerbe. Why would he leaue it? Because it asked such perpetuall attendance. Oh now you haue answered me, he shall be none of my Iurie for that. Had he so little wit? Well Sir saith my Attorney, I pray you dally no more but take him, for you may haue a worse else. I say vnto you he is a right English man, a faithfull, plaine, true, stout Gentleman, & aman of honesty & vertue. Out asse. What dost thou tel me of these stale fashions of the sworde & buckler time? I tell thee they are out of request now, (honest & vertuous) I durst as leaue you had tolde

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told me a tale of an olde Iakes. Of A I A X? Marie that I can do to. I assure you he loues an easie cleanly Iaxe maruellous well, and hee is a very good fellowe at the Iaxe, for if one be his deare friend, he will let him tarie with him, while he is at his busines. I thinke he saith his prayers there, for I will be sworn I hearde him say oft times, I thanke God I haue had a good stoole, &c. May I belecue this of your word? yea bee bolde of it, I can prooue both this & all the rest by very good witnesse. Why didst thou not say thus much at the first? I would haue had him, though I had gone to Barwicke on foote for him. What a good freeholder, a builder, and a housekeeper, and loues a sweete Iaxe too, though he cānot be *Alpha* of my Iury, yet he shall be *Omega*. Come on M. Markham I must craue lesse acquaintance of you as grim as you looke, did not a Lady say once, that I shoulde fare the better for that good face of yours, and God thanke her for it, so I did indeede: yet nowe some will make me belecue, I fare the worse for it. Bee of good cheare man. What makes you so sad? I haue commendations for you frō your old friend Thomas of Ormond hath sent you a hawke will make you liue one yere the longer. I can not make him look mērily on me for al this, he sees he cannot liue long, he must think of his

A most hono-  
rable Earle &  
true friend.

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his graue. Tush man though you cannot liue long, you may linger ( an please God ) as others haue done, some 3. or 4, and 20. yeares yet. What say you? no life? M. Richard Drake hath you commended, and would haue you get the Queene an other gelding, for Gray Markham will haue his old M. fault and fortune both, he wil be olde, and then they will not care for him. Not a word yet? I wil make him speake anon. You shall haue your sonne ioyned patent with you for Bescood, if he wil come home & be a true knight to the crown. What say you to that? Mary gospell in your mouth, and if he can be Proued other, I renounce him for my son. Oh haue you founde your tongue nowe? Well sir, I haue a sute to you, I pray you appeare on my Iurie, & giue a good verdict of our book called M. AIAX. you know the book wel enough, I read you a sleepe in it, once or twice as we went from Greenwich to Westminster. Out vppon it haue you put it in print? did not I tel you the, Charles Chester & 2. or 3. such scoffing fellows would laugh at you for it? Yes: & did not I tel you again, that I would laugh too, & so we might all be merry? Well grim fire let me haue a friendly verdict, if it bee but for teaching you to améd a salt at Bescood, that I felt there 24. winters agoe: & if you do not say well of it, I will cause one or other that hath

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hath beene at M. AIA X, with you, reporte it in Court to your disgrace, and your Ioane shall be disgraced too for tying your Points, and sitting by you so homelie ( yet I would I had giuen 100. pounds shee neuer had had worse nor vntruer tale told of hir, ) and so fare you wel good Master Markham, & god send you many a good stoole. And thus with much adoe, the Iurie was impannel'd. Now began I to haue a good hope, nay rather a firme assurance of my acquital, hauing got a Iurie of so good sufficiencie, so great integritie, so sound abilitie: but it is commonly seene, that in matters depending in controuerisie, the greatest daunger is bred by too much security: for the accusatiō was so hard followed, that some of their Iurie began to be doubtfull of their verdict, the witnesses were so manie, their allegations so shrewd, and the euidence so pregnant. And not only the faults of this present pamphlet, but my former offences, which were before the pardon (contrary to the due course of al courts) were inforced against me. As first, to prooue I had wronged not only Ladies of the court, but al womens sex; they had quoted a stanse in *Hary Osto* beginning thus.

*Yee courtly Dames that are both kinde and true,  
Vnto your Lordes, if kinde and true be any,  
As sure I am in all your lonely crue,*

*of*

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*Of so chaste minds, there are not ouer many:*

And after in the hoasts tale worse, if worse may be.

*Now hee began to hold his wife excused,*

*His anger now a little is relented,*

*And though that shee hir bodie had abused,*

*And to a seruant had so soone consented.*

And after, in the person of Rodomont.

*Vngratesfull, false, craftie you are and cruel,*

*Borne of our burning hell to be the fuel,*

*Not her for this, but he the sex accused,*

*That neuer can with one man be contented,*

*If all (quoth he) with one like staine are spotted.*

*Yet on a monster mine was not besotted.*

And lastly, in this pamphlet to compare, or rather to confound baudie houses and lakes houses, curtesans, and Carters, with angels and Hermits, there were three or fowre of the Iurie (that said) the time had beene, they would haue thought it no good manners. But *Alpha* and *Omega*, that haue euer thought chastitie a vertue, acquitted me at last, saying, to scorne vice, shewed a loue of vertue. And for the rest, I pleaded not onelie a generall but a speciall pardon. Yet least the standers by should thinke I had been guiltye, or that I had beene burnt in the hand, for the like fact before: I answered, that in the verse I did but followe my author. The whole worke being enioyned  
me

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me as a pennance by that Saint, nay rather  
goddesse, whose seruice I am onely deuoted  
vnto. And as for the verses before alleadged  
they were so flat against my conscience, that  
inserted somewhat more then once, to qua-  
lifie the rigor of those hard speeches. For ex-  
ample against railing Rodomont, I said thus.

*I tremble to set downe in my poore verse,  
The blasphemies that he to speake presumes:*

*And writing this, I do know this that I,*

*Oft in my heart, do giue my pen the lye.*

And in an other place, to free mee from all  
suspition of pretended malice, and to shewe  
a manifest euidence of intended loue, where  
my author very sparingly had praised some  
wines, I added of mine own ( ) so much  
as more I thinke was neuer saide for them,  
which I will heere set downe *ad perpetuam  
rei memoriam*, and that all posteritie may  
knowe howe good a husband I would bee  
thought.

*Loe here a verse in laud of louing wines,*

*Extolling still, our happie married state,*

*I say they are, the comforts of our lines,*

*Drawing a happie yoke, without debate.*

*A plai-fellow, that far off all grieffe drives,*

*A Steward, early that prouides and late;*

*Faithfull, and kind, sober, and sweet, & trustie.*

*Nurse to weake age, and pleasure to the lustie.*

Further for the faults escaped in this fore  
alleaged

Mine owne  
subauditar  
verse or wife  
which you  
will.



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alleaged Pamphlet, I protested I was readie to make a retractation for their better satisfactiō; as namely. First for that homely comparison that I made between my Lady Cloacinas house, and my Lady Floras Nymphes, I take it not to holde in generall, but within this exception, Except it be a very foule and deformed harlot; or a very cleane and reformed A I A X.

Secondly for the rules of taming a shrew, that I comended for the wiser. I heere protest against that rule: for if it haue not bene followed within the first yeer or a day, it is too late to proue a new rule afterwards. And therefore I hold it is a rule or maxime; proued by naturall Philosophie, confirmed by ancient historie, and therefore may heere bee concluded in our poore Poetry in this sort.

Aristotle led by his wife.

*Concerning wines take this a certaine rule,  
That if at first you let them haue the rule,  
Your selfe at last with them shall haue no rule,  
Except you let them euermore to rule,*

Semiramis asked leaue to rule but a week, but you know what followed.

At this the whole Iury were mery and agreed all to quite me. And as for those that articulated against mee, some of them are so tickled with this answere, as I am sure they will neuer accuse me for an enemy to Ladies any more.

The

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The next article was for abusing the name of a great souldier, both in that being a *Graecian*, I make him speake in *Latrina Lingua*: and that hauing beene so renowned for his valew in warres, I would say his picture was sette in so homely a place, that it might also thereby seeme to haue beene called after his name in English. Now this matter was followed very hotly by halfe a dozen gallant souldiers, that neuer saw naked sworde out of Fleetstreet, and these came in swearing, that I had touched them in honor, and they would therefore fight with me about it. The Iurie seemed to make but light of the matter, but yet to satisfie the Gentlemen, specially two of them, that had beene likened to *Brutus* and *Cassius* and called *ultimi Ruffianissimi*, they willed me to answer them, which I did in this sort. I said I was loth to fight, for the testification of my wit: & further, I could name them two honest Gentlemen that had offered Mr. A I A X as great abuse as this; & he had put it vp at their handes; they asked who they were? I tolde them they were two of his countrymen, one they called him Mr. Plato, the other M. Plutarke, of whom the one in his tenth booke *de Repub.* saith, that the soule of A I A X went into a Lion, & the other saith, it had bin as good for it to haue gone into an asse, & both agree that it went  
into

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into hell. And if reading of this will satisfie you, I will turne you to the place, and lend you the booke in Latine or in French, for that I thinke is your better language, and I protest to you, it is an excellent chapter, wherein the same Plutarke very diuinely sheweth howe predestination and free-will, and chance, may all stand together. The poxe on Plutarke and you too (sayeth one of these fighting fellowes,) reade him who list, for I will neuer reade him: but why should he or you either abuse a souldiers name? Oh Syr, said I, good words I pray you, though I dare say you wishe me no worse then you haue your selfe: for I know you are a Gentleman of three decents; but if that be beyond your reading, let me come within compasse of your studie, I know you haue read old Scogins iestes. Did not he when the French king said he had set our kings picture in the place where his close stoole stands. Sir saith he, you do the better, for euery time you looke on him, you are so afrayd, that you haue need of a close stoole. Now I hope I offer A IAX no greater scorne then that was, yet thanks be to God their successors remain good friends. This did somewhat better answer them, but not fully. Nay maisters (quoth I,) if you stand on the puntillios with me: whomsoever this answer will not serue, let him send me the

Dd.      bredth

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Recantare, is to  
sing the same  
song againe.

breadth of his buckler ( I should say the lēgth  
of his rapier ) and draw himselfe as lineally  
from Captaine Medons grandfather, as I  
haue deriued A I A X from *Stercutum*, and  
I will presently make a recantation of all I  
haue sayd. At last to take vp the quarrell, Sir  
M.A. and M.R.S. set downe their order, that  
he should not be called any more Captaine  
A I A X, nor Monsieur A I A X, but Don  
A I A X, & then to this second article they  
all agreed, not guiltie.

These swearing fellowes being thus dis-  
charged, there comes a couple of formall fel-  
lowes, in blacke cloakes faced with veluet,  
and hats sutable to the same, and vnder their  
hats litle night-caps, that couered their Epi-  
metheus, but not their Prometheus, hauing  
speciall care to keep their braine warme, (yet  
one of them was sayd to be a hote brayned  
fellow,) the other had no great fault that I  
know, saue that he wold say too long a grace  
afore diner, in so much that one of his owne  
coat told him one day, that if he had thought  
to haue heard a collation, he wold haue sung  
a Psalme before it. These whispered two or  
three of the Iurie in the eare, and after ha-  
uing made a ducking curtesie or two, bad  
the Lord to guide their worships, and so  
went backe to their chambers at the signe  
of the Bible: leauing a madde fellowe theyr  
Attorney,

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Attorney, to vrge the accusation they had brought, which was in shewe verie sharpe and haynous, to this effect. That they supposed me to be in heaet a Papist. Straight I searcht euery corner of my heart, and finding no such thought in it, I asked why anie man should say so? I knowe (say I) some of you would see my heart out by your willes: but for that you shall pardon me: But this yee knowe, *ex abundantia cordis, os loquitur*, out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaketh. And here I protest to you all, I neuer defended any opinion of religion, eyther by way of argument, or writing, that in any point gainsayeth the Cōmunion booke. Let my accusers say so if they can. Yes Sir, faith their zealous Attorney, I heard one testified *vina voce* in a pulpit, that you had defended a popish opinion, of a second coming of Elias. And if I mistake him not much, I trowe his good liuing growes not so fast with his new benefice, as his good name withers with his ill behauiour. But if he vse no better behauiour, then to tel me my faults at Bathe when I am at London, I maie fortune play the bad horseman, and spurre him at London, for stumbling so ill fauoredly at Bathe. Or if I would ride like a hot spurre, he might happe like a dulle lade (asse hee is) be wrong

All that defend  
the Queenes  
proceedings  
are counted no  
better then Pa-  
pists with these  
hot fellowes, &  
they call my  
Lord of Cana  
our Pope.

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wrong on the withers, as one of his coat was for such a matter in the same place. It maie be he thinks he hath aduantage of me, because hee can prate in a Pulpit *cum licentia*, but he shall see by this little, that I haue liberty if I list, to reply in print *cum priuilegio*. And my replication may fortune be as forcible as his answere.

More I would haue said (for I was in choller) but some of the Iurie wished me (for satisfying of the company) to tell what religion I was of. It was a strange question to bee asked mee afore such a Iurie (considering I came not thither to be Catechised) & therefore I determined to make them as straunge an answere, such as should please them all, or displease them all ere I had done. First I sayd, neither *Papist*, *Protestant*, nor *Puritan*. Then all sayd, they would condemne mee as a neuter or *nulli fiam*, except I gaue a better answere,

For some of the  
I hope are but  
Protestantes of  
anno Primo E-  
lix.

Then I sayd, I am a *Protesting, Catholicke Puritan*. Iush say they, how can that be? Forsooth euen thus, to beleue well, to doe well, and say well, to haue good faith, good works, and good wordes, is not that a good religion? Yes indeede, so done, were very well said. But said they, directly we expect your answer, what you count to bee true Religion? Why  
then

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then directly thus I answered, out of S. Iustus Epistle, the two last verses, you shall see who be of a wrong religion, and who bee of the right. Iustus? Oh, saith one by and by, I think he meanes Iames, and straight he puls a little booke out of his sleue, that looked like *Iamns* picture, with two faces standing East and West, (but it was a testament bound to the backe side of Davids Psalmes) and turning to the place, hee read as followeth; If a man thinke himselfe Religious, not refraining his tongue, but seducing his heart, this mans religion is vaine.

To haue a bad  
tongue, is bad  
religion.

Pure religion and vndeiled before God, euen the Father, is this, to visite Orphanes and Widowes in their afflictions, & to keep your selfe vndeiled from the worlde. Why then saith one, if you professe so pure a religion, it seemes you are a Puritan. Euen so.

More time would haue beene spent in this matter, but that Sir H. P. tolde them these things belonged to the high Commissioners, and therefore wisht them to proceed to the next.

Now for the last article, because it was concerning only the Pamphlet it selfe; the whole Iurie referred the censuring therof to Sir H. P. to say if anie thing therein were against the Lawe, because hee was well scene in the Law.

He



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He told them, that indeede hee had read it more then once: and that for ought he could obserue in it, it did not in any pointe offend either common or statute lawe. But (saide he) there is a law (as I take it) more common the Ciuill, that saith, things must be as they be taken. Yet for my part, in my verdict I wold not say any mans eares are hornes, what the rest said, I could not tel, for that I was sent away, yet I ouer-heard one of them say, he would talke with a Counseller, to enforme him better of the law. But I finding that to grow so doubtful, that I thought to haue bin so cleare, began now to thinke it my safest course, to sue for a pardon. And with that I awaked, vowing I would neuer write anie more such idle toyes, if this were well taken: praying the readers to regard it, but as the first line of Esops fables.

Judge Markh  
would haue  
beene of that  
opinion in the  
time of Ed. the  
iiii. and Iudge  
Portman your  
grandfather in  
Ed. the vi.

*Sapientis est  
nihil præstare  
præter culpam.*

*Gallus gallinatus dum vertit stercorearium, in-  
uenit gemmam.*

FINIS.

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